under their respective jurisdiction. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that they have undertaken an exercise to rewrite the Building Bye-law , to address the future development scenario. While the proposed Bye-laws do not directly seek to address the question of unauthorized constructions, they can be expected to make the sanction of the building plans easier through a transparent procedural process, so that unauthorised constructions are minimized.

(c) Action to regulate illegal/unauthorized constructions in violation of the provisions of Building Bye-laws are governed by the provisions of relevant statues. Local bodies have reported that whenever unauthorized construction is noticed, action is taken by them as per the existing Bye-laws that includes sealing and demolition, filling of cases in Courts, imposing fine as per laws in force. Government has also issued instructions to the local bodies, from time to time, to take action in respect of illegal constructions and encroachments on public land.

Relaxation in norms for handicapped persons

*523. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to relax the norms set under the scheme for assistance to the handicapped persons for purchase and fitting of various types of aids and appliances;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have enhanced the income eligibility ceiling for purchase of software for visually handicapped persons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) to (d) Government has decided to modify the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances as follows:

	Subject	Modifications
(i)	Raising of income limit	The income limit for eligibility has been enahanced for 100% concession to Rs. 6,500/- per month and for 50% concession to Rs. 10,000/- per month.

	Subject	Modifications
(ii)	Distribution of Assistive devices costing more than Rs. 6,000/-	The motorised tricycles for persons with\ locomotor disability and software for visually handicapped persons using computers which may cost more than Rs. 6,000/- are permitted. The extent of the subsidy would be Rs. 6000/- only.
(iii)	Monitoring and evaluation	2% of annual allocation has been earmarked for monitoring and evaluation expenses.
(iv)	Procedure for receipt of grant-in-aid by an implementing agency	The implementing agencies will be requested to keepmanuals/literature on main features, maintenance and upkeep of devices, one year free maintenance would be provided by them for assistive devices.
(v)	Aids and Appliances to be provided to Visually Handicapped	Braille writing equipments including Braillers, Braille shorthand machines, typewriters for blind students from tenth class instead of XII class.
(vi)	increase in coverage of girl child/women	At least 25% of the beneficiaries should be girl children/women.

Orphans and destitute children

†*526. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that orphans and destitute children born in India, on being adopted by foreigners, wish to return to India because they have to live in mental stress while living in racial atmosphere in foreign countries but due to uncertainty and lack of proper system, it is not possible;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering this issue on humanitarian ground; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Such instances are rare. Government of India through Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) maintains a

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.